

## **Little Big Forest Stewardship Committee**

### **Minutes - Monthly Meeting – 1/10/24**

Members Present: Robert Winterbottom (Chair), Tim Rowehl (Vice Chair), Terri LaRoche (Secretary), Jason Kovarik, Geoff Jones, Milosh Bukovcan, Maggie Forestall, Jaelyn Stetson

Members unable to attend: Craig Walker

Public Present: JFES Members Parents

Meeting was convened at 6:13 PM and Bob Winterbottom led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **General Housekeeping**

Terri requested that we consider moving future meetings to the third Wed of every month at 6PM to ease meeting constraints she has with many other boards on the second week. All agreed this was viable, Bob will reach out to Bob Maden to adjust the time on the Town Calendar.

**Review of Minutes December 13, 2023 SC meeting.** Bob invited comments on the 12/13/23 meeting minutes. Terri noted Milosh's last name was spelled incorrectly. Tim made a motion to pass, Jaelyn seconded, unanimously approved.

It was agreed that minute distribution would remain the same as current and that Maggie will distribute minutes to our JFES Student Leaders.

#### **Welcome and introductions of our JFES Student Leaders!**

Each JFES LBF SC member introduced themselves indicating their grade level and how long they have lived in Stoddard. This was followed by the existing board introducing themselves with the same info, as well as providing a bit of background on themselves. See picture below.

All were very happy and thankful to have the JFES Student Leaders join the LBF Stewardship Committee, a great opportunity for all of us!



Front left to right: Milosh Bukovcan, Jason Kovarik, Bob Winterbottom, Tim Rowehl, Terri LaRoche, Geoff Jones, Jaelynn Stetson and Maggie Forestall

Rear left to right: Peyton Allain, Grade 4; Charlotte Miller, Grade 4; Jaxon Leonard, Grade 4; Rebecca Meyer, Grade 5; Cooper Mullahy, Grade 5

### **Student Leaders Thoughts and General Discussion**

- The group envisions leveraging a station based structure (like Mini Field Days) from 9 – 1:30. It would essentially be a theme for a day, where one day might be measuring trees and fishing, another might be plant identification etc.
- They do not want to see electricity at the Cabin but Solar might be a good idea
- They do not want a regular fire pit with the concern it would invite fires and poor behavior. They would like to see a moveable fire pit to store and take out for use like a Solo Stove.
- Arrangements for seating were discussed; the students would prefer log benches or something fairly rustic – to blend in with the natural / outdoor environment.
- They would like to Change the Logo and provided two great possibilities that had relevant meaning to the JFES program such as “Little People Big Trees”. The brand recognition of the current logo was discussed, but all agreed that having a separate “JFES LBF Logo” would be great

for Branding the JFES activities and apparel. Christine will have the logo developed. Jason noted that corrections were needed to the existing Logo were needed to change the established date and change the Alpine Mountains to Regular Mountains.

- Potential dock expansion was discussed, would need to look at Shoreland requirements, may need to be removable.
- Water and Bathroom were discussed. Potentially start with handpump for water from the lake.
- Storage is needed and several possibilities were discussed for inside and out. Sleeping was discussed and the idea of sleeping in the loft, and perhaps adding another loft to the other side. It was determined that the Student Leaders actually need to see the cabin so they are able to develop their input.
  - ◆ Geoff offered to give the students an LBF Tour
  - ◆ Bob reminded us we need a Calendar to schedule use and tours
  - ◆ Jason could set up a a Goggle Calendar
- Maintenance and clean up was discussed with the thought that Eagle Scouts could complete Volunteer work with this and Troop 302 has 15-20 Teens.

At 7:15 pm, the meeting was suspended briefly to allow the student representatives and their parents to depart.

#### **Draft Mgmt. Plan (additional suggested revisions and additions distributed by Bob again on 1/9)**

- We all need to review the draft Management Plan that Bob Distributed on 1/9 – it is due this month. Jason has added it to the Folder.
- Terri Raised concerns on completing the Financial piece without a known direction on how we would handle finances if the Town was unable to pay Eva Lane. If we want to move money out of Con Com she believes we need a warrant article for May vote, but she will verify.
- Tim and Milosh will look into what it would take to establish a 501c3 similar to friends of the Library
- Bob has updated with History

#### **Follow Ups**

- Jason will update the LBF and ConCom Websites, including addition of information about the formation of the Stewardship Committee, its membership, Charter and Meeting Minutes
- Bob will update Charter regarding Student Leaders
- Jason and Student Leaders will follow up with Logo's
- Jason will look at establishing a Google Calendar
- Geoff will review and incorporate suggested edits and additions into a revised LBF Management Plan, ideally with further inputs from other committee members
- Next meeting of the SC will be on Wednesday, Feb 21, at 6 pm at the Town Hall

Meeting was adjourned around 8 pm.

Minutes submitted by Terri LaRoche – SC Secretary

